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# ANNUAL REPORT

— AND —

## VITAL STATISTICS.



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### URBAN DISTRICT OF MIDDLEWICH.

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PREPARED BY

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Fellow of the North-Western Branch of the Society of Medical Officers  
of Health ; Member of the British Medical Association ;  
Medical Officer of Health of the District.



TOWN HALL,

MIDDLEWICH.

To the Chairman and Members of the Middlewich Urban District Council



Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my 20th Annual Report and Vital Statistics, with Survey Report for the last five years.

**Area,** 1082 acres.

**Population,** 5626.

**Number of Inhabited Houses,** 1185.

**Rateable Value,** £21,997.

**Sum represented by a Penny Rate,** £90.

<b>Births</b>	}	Legitimate	...	119	}	Birth Rate, 21.1.
		Illegitimate	...	1		

<b>Deaths</b>	...	...	...	69	Death Rate, 12.2.
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**Number of Women** dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth { from Sepsis, None.  
from other Causes, None.

**Deaths of Infants** under 1 year of age per 1,000 births : 84.

**Deaths** from Measles (all ages) 1.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) 1. Rate 3.5.

# ANNUAL REPORT.

*Five Years' Average.*

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

	Population	BIRTHS.				DEATHS.			
		Males.	Females	Total.	Rate.	Males.	Females	Total.	Rate.
1921	5190	60	61	121	23.3	34	23	57	10.98
1922	5190	61	47	108	20.2	32	28	60	11.2
1923	5437	62	59	121	22.2	22	23	45	8.2
1924	5609	67	51	118	21.0	40	24	64	11.4
1925	5626	63	56	119	21.16	32	37	69	12.27
Totals ...	27052	313	274	587	107.86	160	135	295	54.05
Average for 5 years ..	5409	62.6	54.8	117.4	21.57	32	27	59	10.81

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DISEASE.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	Total.	Average for 5 years.
Diphtheria ...	32	44	60	15	8	159	31.8
Scarlet Fever ...	3	2	6	56	17	84	16.8
Pneumonia ...	4	17	11	12	41	85	17.0
Chicken Pox ...			22			22	4.4
Erysipelas ...		4	4	1	6	15	3.0
Ophthalmia ...	1				1	2	0.4
Encephalitis ...			1	1	3	5	1.0
Puerperal Fever...		1	1		1	3	0.6
Total ...	40	68	105	85	77	375	75.0

# ANNUAL REPORT.

*Five Years' Average.*

## CONVERSIONS.

Year.	Total number of Houses.	Number of Houses using		To W.C's.	Total number of Houses.	Number of Pits.		To Ash Bins.
		From Pails.	Privies.			Covered Ash Pits.	Open Ash Pits.	
1921	40	4	36	40	150	7	68	150
1922	22	12	11	23	58	9	25	59
1923	39	15	24	39	20	3	9	20
1924	53	7	46	53	25	6	10	25
1925	105	69	36	105	103	8	51	103
Totals ... ..	259	107	153	260	356	33	163	357
Average for 5 years ..	51.80	21.40	30.6	52.0	71.2	6.6	32.6	71.4

## NEW HOUSES.

Year.	Private Enterprise.	Council Scheme.	Subsidy Grant.	Total.
1921		12		12
1922	3	6		9
1923	1			1
1924	5		24	29
1925	6		23	29
Totals ... ..	15	18	47	80
Average for 5 years ...	3	3.6	15.3	16

Houses in Course of Erection, December 31st, 1925 .. 19.

## SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Reg.	1920	January. 1925	December.
Registered ... ..	5	5	3
Licensed ... ..	4	5	4
Total ... ..	9	10	7



# Causes of Death in Middlewich Urban District.

**CIVILIANS ONLY.**

**1925.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.							MALES.	FEMALES.
ALL CAUSES...							32	37
1	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	
2	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...		1
3	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
4	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...		1
5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
6	Other Tuberculous Diseases...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
7	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
8	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...		2
9	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...		1
10	Heart Disease...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
11	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...		2
12	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
13	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
14	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	
15	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	
16	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
17	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...		1
18	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...		1
19	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
20	Other Diseases from Violence	...	...	...	...	...		2
21	Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—								
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	3	7
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...		
TOTAL BIRTHS							63	56
Legitimate							62	56
Illegitimate							1	
POPULATION ...							5626	

# ANNUAL REPORT, 1925.

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## **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

The Nurses of the Local Nursing Association, undertake the general nursing, and in emergency nurse Measles, Pneumonia.

## **Midwives.**

## **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

A County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is held in Town Hall weekly. Average attendance 17.

Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases. Provided by County Council.

## **Hospitals.—**

**Maternity.** Local Nursing Association.  
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

**Children.** Pendlebury Hospital, Manchester.  
Albert Infirmary, Winsford.

## **Infectious Disease.—**

### **Fever and Smallpox.**

The Northwich Rural, Northwich, Middlewich and Winsford Hospital Committee, Davenham near Northwich.

## **Subscription to Hospitals.**

Albert Infirmary, Winsford ; Royal Infirmary, Manchester ; St. Mary's Hospital (for Women), Manchester ; Local Nursing Association.

## **Ambulance Facilities.**

A. A Motor Ambulance is kept at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of Infectious Diseases. Communication by Telephone.

B. A Motor Ambulance belonging to the St. John's Ambulance Corps is kept at Winsford, for accident and other cases. Communication by Telephone.

C. A Wheel Stretcher is kept at the local Police Station for emergencies.

## **Bacteriological Examinations.**

These are carried out by Public Health Department, University of Manchester, County Council, and by Public Analyst.

To Public Health Department. Diphtheria Swabs sent 23. Positive result 2.

To County Council. Sputum sent 15. Result positive 6.

To Public Analyst. One sample of water from the Kinderton Water Works. Report : Water of satisfactory organic purity.

## **Infectious Disease.**

**Pneumonia.** 41 Cases notified. This was present throughout the year. No cases were removed to Hospital.

**Encephalitis Lethargica.** 3 Cases notified. 1 death. This disease occurred in January affecting one child of school age which has recovered, and two adults, one a married woman who died, and one male adult, a gardener, who is still on the books.

**Scarlet Fever.** 17 Cases notified. No deaths. Removed to Hospital 14. Nursed at Home 3. This was of a mild type and was spread over the year, on enquiry there appeared to be no contact and no recurrence.

**Diphtheria.** 8 Cases notified, all removed to Hospital, no deaths. These cases were very mild, the cases occurring during the latter part of the year.

**Disinfection and Disinfectation.** Carried out by Sanitary Inspector by means of sprayer and Formalin vapour lamps.

Steam Disinfectors at Isolation Hospital used for serious cases.

### **Legislation in force and Byelaws.**

List of Adoptive Acts.	Date of adoption.
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act.	October 7th, 1891.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.	May 20th, 1893.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.	March 30th, 1895.
Baths and Washhouses Act, 1846.	July 20th, 1897.
Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.	May 2nd, 1900.
Notification of Births Act, 1907.	1909.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, (Sections 39-40-41-42)	January 25th, 1912.

**Bye-Laws.** Slaughter Houses, Common Lodging Houses, Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, Nuisances, Fellmonger, Fat melter or Fat Extractor, sanctioned March, 1892.

Relating to New Streets and Buildings. Sanctioned December, 1924.

### **Public Health Staff.**

Medical Officer of Health : S. L. Melville, L.S.A., Lond. Part time.

Sanitary Inspector : R. L. Price, Cert. Royal San. Inst. Whole time.

Exchequer Grants to Salary of both Officers.

### **Water.—**

**Principal Supply.** A constant supply of good water is obtained from three boreholes 300 feet deep, in the Red Sandstone on Delamere Forest.

**Secondary Supply.** Is obtained from the Old Works, situate at Kinderton, near Middlewich, used solely for standby purposes.

**Supply.** Water is supplied to almost every house in the area, only three isolated houses a long distance from mains, all of which have good wells.

There are only three blocks, totalling 16 houses, supplied by stand pipes, all other houses have water laid in to the houses.

Water is supplied to a number of Parishes in the Northwich and Congleton Rural Areas.

### **Drainage and Sewage.—**

**Sewage Works.** Sewage is treated by means of Septic Tanks and continuous Filtration. No additions have been made to the works, which appear to be working satisfactory, no complaints have been received during 1925.



**Drains and Sewers.** With the exception of 6 houses on the Sproston road, and 9 other houses at great distance from Sewers, all the houses are connected to the Public Sewers.

The crossing of the Railway prevents the Sproston road being connected.

All Drains and Sewers appear to be working satisfactory.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

There were in use on December 31st, 1925 :

575 Houses using 681 Water Closets.

391 „ „ 393 Pail Closets.

234 „ „ Privy Closets.

Of the above houses 20 houses have a Water Closet inside the house and a Pail Closet or Privy Closet outside.

There are no houses using Privy Middens, or any other system of mixing Night-soil and Household refuse.

**Conversions.** The Council have laid down a definite policy of clearing both Pail and Privy Closets, under the Public Health Acts of 1875 and 1907. 69 Pail Closets and 36 Privy Closets were converted to 105 Water Closets during the year.

**Ashes Accommodation.** There were in use on December 31st, 1925 :

787 Houses using 790 Ashbins.

239 „ „ 136 Covered Ashpits.

154 „ „ 112 Open Ashpits.

The Ashpits are being reduced, and all new houses are supplied with Ashbins.

### **Conversions.**

				Houses.			Pits.			Bins.
Covered Ashpits	...	...	...	21	...	..	9	...	...	21
Open Ashpits	...	...	...	82	...	..	53	...	...	82
Total	...	...	...	103	...	...	62	...	...	103

### **Scavenging.—**

**Nightsoil Removal.** The Nightsoil is disposed of to the Market Gardeners and Farmers for treatment on the land.

Pail Closets are cleared weekly.

Privy Closets are cleared every 7 to 8 weeks.

**Ashes Removal.** Household Refuse is deposited in tips well away from houses. Ashbins are cleared weekly.

Ashpits are cleared 8 to 10 weeks.

The whole of the Scavenging is done by the Council's own workmen and Team Labour.

**Slaughter Houses.** Registered 3. Licensed 5. Total 8.

2 Houses ceased to be used as such during the year.

All houses have good impervious floors and Town's water laid on, all are kept in good order and clean condition.

## **Cowsheds and Dairies.** On Register December 31st.

As Producer and Retailer 4.

As Retailer only ... 6.

As Wholesale Producer only 4.

Milk is of a very good quality, periodical inspection is made of Dairies and Retailers carts and utensils.

All Cowsheds have Town's water except one on extreme boundary.

No prosecutions have been made during the year for milk.

**Meat.** The notification of times of slaughter have been well observed.

Condemned meat is buried or disposed of to a manure works.

Shops retailing meat have been visited and found to be kept clean and in good order, verbal warning has been given with reference to the wearing of overalls.

## **Other Places where Food is prepared.**

These are regularly visited and found to be kept clean and in good order.

## **Bakehouses.**

These number 8. All are well lighted and ventilated and have Town's water laid on, are kept clean and in good condition and regularly limewashed. There are no underground bakehouses.

**Day Schools.** Number, 3. All provided with flushing latrines and Town's water, in good order, and are kept very clean.

Town's water is provided for drinking purposes.

## **Housing.—**

### **New Houses. 1925.**

Houses built by Private Enterprise	...	...	6
Houses built under Subsidy Grant	...	...	23
Total ...	...	...	29

19 New Houses in course of erection at end of year.

## **Housing Regulations.**

Number of Dwelling Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	...	4
Number of representations made to Local Authority	...	...	...	4
Number of Houses in respect of which notice was served during 1925	...	...	...	4
Remaining in hand December 31st	...	...	...	4
Estimated number of Houses within limits of rent	...	...	...	903
Approximate number of Back to Back Houses	...	...	...	Nil.
Approximate number of Cellar Dwellings	...	...	...	Nil.
What number of Dwelling Houses for the Working Classes has your Council decided are required under the recent Housing Acts	...	...	...	Nil.

**Houses Generally.** Houses on the whole are maintained in a good and clean condition. Minor defects are verbally reported to the Owners and quickly remedied. Overcrowding is comparatively small and calls for no severe measures.

# Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1925.

URBAN DISTRICT OF MIDDLEWICH.

TABLE A.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												
	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over.	Total.
Pneumonia ...	1	3	4	1	1	7	5	4	5	8	2		41
Lethargica ...							1			1	1		3
Scarlet Fever ...			1	2	3	8	3						17
Erysipelas ...								2	1		1	2	6
Diphtheria ...						3		3	1		1		8
Ophthalmia ...	1												1
Puerperal... ..										1			1
Totals ...	2	3	5	3	4	18	9	9	7	12	5	2	79

TABLE B.

DISEASE.	Notifications.		Nursed at		Deaths at		Total Deaths.
			Hospital.	Home.	Hospital.	Home.	
Pneumonia ...	...	41		41		4	4
Lethargica ...	...	3		3		1	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	17	14	3			
Erysipelas ...	...	6	3	3		1	1
Diphtheria ...	...	8	8				
Ophthalmia...	...	1		1			
Puerperal ...	...	1		1		1	1
Totals ...	...	77	25	52	—	7	7

*Number of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year ended  
31st December, 1925.*

<b>Form A.</b>	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Totals,
Pulmonary ... ..	M. F.	M. H.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
				1	1	2	1			1	2
Non-Pulmonary ...	1		2								3
											6
											3

  

<b>Form B.</b>	<b>Form C.</b>		Poor Law Institutions.	Sanatoria.
Pulmonary ... .. Nil.	Pulmonary ... ..	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Non-Pulmonary ...	Non-Pulmonary ...		Nil.	1 2



# TABULAR STATEMENT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

Year ending December 31st, 1925.

Nature of Inspections made.	Number.	Number of Notices served.		Result of service of notices.	
		Informal.	Statutory.	Complied with.	Remaining in hand.
Dwelling-Houses (General Inspections) ... ..	117	10		10	
Tent, Vans and Sheds ... ..	6	3		3	
Courts, Yards and Passages... ..	24	2		2	
Privies and Pail Closets ... ..	1544	20	30	50	
Water Closets ... ..	765	10		10	
Ashpits and Ashbins... ..	941	30		30	
House Drainage ... ..	75				
Ditches and Watercourses ... ..	4	1		1	
Offensive Accumulations ... ..	5	2		2	
Keeping of Animals (P.H.A. 1875 S. 91)... ..	2	2		2	
Slaughter Houses, including Meat Inspection ...	531	3		3	
Other Places where Food is produced or sold ...	40	1		1	
Piggeries ... ..	3				
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ... ..	84	3		3	
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces ... ..	106	5		5	
Bakehouses ... ..	48	9		9	
Common Lodging House ... ..	52	1		1	
Infectious Disease Visits and Revisits ... ..	128				
Miscellaneous ... ..	411	10		10	
Totals ... ..	4886	112	30	142	Nil.

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Premises.								Inspections.	Number of	
									Notices.	Remedied.
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24		
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	2	2
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	3	3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	5	5

## DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.								Number of Defects	
								Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under Public Health Act—									
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
								5	5

## REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Occupation.											Number.
Cycle and Motor Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Plumber and Painters...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tailors, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Joiners, Cabinet Makers and Wheelwrights	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Canal Boat Building	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot Repairing...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dressmaking and Millinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tinplate Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Saddlers...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Clock and Watch Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Canal Wharves...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38

## OUTWORKERS PLACES.

Clothing Factory    ...    ...    ...    ...    1

# Sanitary Conveniences,

December 31st, 1925.

	Water Closets.		Pail Closets.		Privy Closets.		Ashbins.		Covered Ash Pits.		Open Ash Pits.	
	No.	W.C's	No.	Pails	No.	No.	No.	Bin	No.	Pits	No.	Pits
Houses... ..	575	681	391	393	234	234	787	790	239	136	154	112
Institutions . . .	15	80	1	2	1	1	12	23				
Lock-up Shops . . .	8	9	1	1	1	1	8	8				
Factories . . . . .	14	49	11	18	1	1	7	7				
Workshops . . . . .	4	6	4	6	4	4	5	7				
	616	825	408	420	241	241	819	835	239	136	154	112

